

EMERGE TO HOST SENIOR ART EXHIBITION UNTIL FRIDAY Turn to A6

The East Carolinian



VOLUME 92, ISSUE 57

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

Tuesday, 4.24.18



ECU graduates celebrate commencement in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. This year, commencement will begin at 7 p.m. in the stadium. COURTESY OF ECU.EDU

Mendenhall dining area to close down

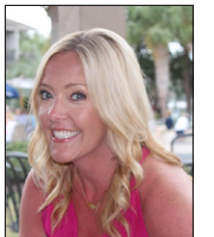
Andy Li
TEC STAFF

After 15 years of service, East Carolina University's Destination 360 will close its doors on April 28 with a week of events to celebrate the on-campus dining location.

Marketing Manager for Dining Services Melissa Riggle said the dining area, located in Mendenhall Student Center, is closing down permanently because of the new Main Campus Student Center, located by Joyner Library and Mendenhall, which is set to open in the fall.

"D-360 has been a staple. It is one of our highest trafficked areas during the lunch meal service. It's just a campus favorite. It's very convenient for the people in the West End area," Riggle said. "We wanted to really give them a nice send-off this week."

Location Manager of D-360 Michael Morgan said the food spot will be turned into the main facilities for ECU Catering, which currently cooks out of Todd Dining Hall. Morgan said the celebratory week is meant to show appreciation for the students and their devotion to D-360 over the years.



Melissa Riggle

"We've been the number one retail location on campus as far as sales and popularity for many years," Morgan said.

Riggle said to raise excitement for D-360's last day open, Dining Services will hold different promotions each day this week. Yesterday's event was called Monster Mash UP Monday. Riggle said D-360 offered a promotion for all Monster Energy drinks.

"(Today) we'll offer 'Twofer Tuesday,' so obviously, just what it says," Riggle said. "Different items in the retail and the market area (will be sold two for one)...Wednesday, we're going to be promoting, highlighting some of the new concepts that are going to be in the new student union."

On Thursday, Riggle said D-360 will bring back several campus favorites throughout the years, such as mozzarella sticks and boneless wings. Friday will be 'Free Swag Friday,' where participants can get items from the new dining options coming to the student center. Riggle

ONLINE | FULL STORY

GRADUATION 2018

Students look to celebrations, reflect on ECU experiences

Blessing Aghimien
TEC STAFF

Four years of rigorous academic work at East Carolina University will soon culminate for seniors into a day of pomp and circumstance, as the month of May brings graduation season to the ECU and Greenville community.

Graduation ceremonies begin May 4, with each department hosting its own commencement ceremonies. The University Commencement Ceremony is set to start at 7 p.m. in Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium. More than 5,500 students, including almost 4,000 undergraduates, are expected to receive their degrees this spring, according to ECU's Office of the Registrar graduation records. The conferral of 5,282 degrees were approved by the ECU Board of Trustees during its meeting on April 20.

In addition to the festivities for graduating seniors on ECU's campus, the first ECU Grad Bash will take place on May 3 in Uptown Greenville's

Five Points Plaza, according to the ECU Commencement's website. There, Greenville band Spare Change will play live music while alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase to those of age, along with complimentary soft drinks and cupcakes, free of cost to students.



Mary Grace Lee

"The Grad Bash is one of the things I'm looking forward to the most," Mary Grace Lee, a senior biology major, said. "It's just a time to spend with your graduating friends, enjoying life and reminiscing on how fast the four years of your life went by."

The process of degree approval starts with the successful completion of a graduation application on PiratePort, according to the ECU Office of the Registrar's official website. Graduation

applications must have been completed at least one semester prior to completing the requirements of the degree.

The farewell from academia is not the only farewell some ECU seniors have to make in May. To students such as senior Geoffrey Whitley, being a member of several student organizations and clubs on campus have served as a "foundational" part of the ECU experience.

From his time spent as a resident and orientation assistant to choreographing for ECU's Fashion Above Modern Expression, or F.A.M.E., Modeling Troupe, Whitley said he owes it to ECU for preparing him for life after graduation.

"The organizations here at ECU have empowered me to be a leader and a voice for my community," Whitley, a communication and fashion merchandising double major, said.

> GRADUATION page A2

>> PHI KAPPA TAU INVESTIGATION

Students allowed to finish classes

Austin Kinlaw
TEC STAFF

The four East Carolina University students arrested during the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity investigation have been allowed to finish the semester.

Grant Swanner, Nolan Leonard, Jordan Kowalski and William Carter were arrested on April 10 when the Greenville Police Department searched the house at 409 Elizabeth St. and found more than 2,500 Xanax bars, marijuana and drug paraphernalia. Following their arrests, the national organization suspended ECU's chapter of the fraternity.

Virginia Hardy, vice chancellor of

> FRATERNITY page A2

Pirates prepare to face the Wolfpack



ECU sophomore Bryant Packard awaits a pitch during his at-bat. COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

Dylan Johnson
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University baseball and softball teams both roll in to in-state match ups with North Carolina State University this week after earning American Athletic Conference series wins last weekend. The baseball team plays tonight at 6 p.m. in Raleigh while the softball team plays at the ECU Softball Stadium tomorrow at 5 p.m.

ECU baseball (30-9, 8-4 AAC) takes on a dangerous NCSU (31-8, 15-6 ACC) team that is currently ranked No. 2 in the Baseball America rankings. ECU is ranked No. 7 in the country after going 4-0 last week, with wins over No. 12 Duke University as well as an AAC sweep over the University of Memphis. NCSU went 3-1 in the last week, with a midweek

win over the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, then a weekend series win against Duke.

ECU will lean on sophomore left-handed pitcher Jake Agnos to start against the Wolfpack. Agnos is 4-2 this season in eight starts, and has a 3.19 ERA in 36.2 innings pitched. Agnos appeared out of the bullpen for two innings in ECU's win over Memphis in the second game of its doubleheader on Saturday. His last start came against Duke on April 17, when he recorded five innings pitched and gave up one run to earn the win.

ECU's offense hopes to stay hot after scoring a combined 22 runs during its four game win streak. Sophomore outfielder Bryant Packard will look to continue his

> NCSU page A8

ONLINE

» Graduate student becomes first ECU recipient of Schweitzer Fellowship

» ECU Track and Field conclude outdoor season with personal records

SOCIAL MEDIA



@theeastcarolinian



Facebook.com/theeastcarolinian



@TEC_Newspaper

\$500 GIFT CARD WHEN YOU SIGN A LEASE PLUS CHOOSE ONE OF THE BELOW PRIZES:





gather
UPTOWN

LEASE AT: 400 Evans St. | Greenville, NC 27858
LIVE AT: 310 W 5th St. | Greenville, NC 27834
gatheruptown.com | 252-689-8568 | f@GatherUptown

BRIEFS

Student Affairs to host mental health seminar

Representatives from the East Carolina University Center for Counseling and Student Development will host a mental health seminar from noon to 1 p.m. tomorrow in Hendrix Theater. As part of its last installment of the "CCSD: FYI" series for the 2018 spring semester, the mental health seminar will introduce the concepts of resilience and goal-setting. The mental health seminar is a Wellness Passport event and those arriving after doors close at 12:15 p.m. will not be able to receive a stamp for HLTH 1000 credit. For more information about this seminar, contact ECU CCSD Staff Counselor Maya Pittman at mitchellm14@ecu.edu.

ECU SRC to host kayaking, parasailing in Outer Banks

ECU's Student Recreation and Wellness Center will host sea kayaking and parasailing in the Outer Banks on Saturday and Sunday respectively. Both trips are organized by the Adventure Leadership Program, a program in the SRC which organizes physical activities for students throughout the school year. The sea kayaking trip costs \$20 and is open to all students. The parasailing trip is \$70 and is also open to all students. The \$70 covers transportation and fees. To register, go to Campus Recreation and Wellness' website.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

If you feel there are any factual errors in this newspaper, please contact Annah Schwartz at editor@theeastcarolinian.com.

GRADUATION continued from A1

"There's a trickle-down effect that I hope to have left on this campus. Do good work once, and hopefully your legacy will carry on and impact another individual to continue your good work." Delivering the commencement speech at the University Commencement Ceremony is Linda McMahon, the administrator of the United States Small Business Administration, according to ECU News Services. Appointed as SBA Administrator by President Donald Trump and confirmed in January 2017 by the United States

Senate, McMahon is an ECU alumna and co-founder of the World Wrestling Entertainment. Whitley said he is looking forward to the commencement speech as a time to "bring all of his graduating friends together in one space." Being that his friends will graduate in their respective majors at different days and times than Whitley, he said he credits the commencement speech as the "perfect time" to "bring together a graduating class of Pirates." While the Chancellor's Office at ECU is responsible for coordinating with the commencement speaker directly, the ECU Office of Student Transitions is responsible

for the logistics behind the commencement speech, such as parking and social media. Mary Beth Corbin, the executive director of the ECU Office of Student Transitions, said she is excited to have the OST work on graduation logistics for the seniors, especially since the OST was the very office responsible for "orienting and welcoming these same seniors on campus" at the beginning of their undergraduate journey. "It's a bittersweet moment. We know that these seniors are grown and that this is where the journey comes to a close," Corbin said.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

FRATERNITY continued from A1

the Division of Student Affairs, said in an emailed statement the University is following its standard protocol when it comes to the students' punishments. "Regarding the organizational decision, we have been supportive and will continue to be supportive of the national chapter and it's decisions. As for the individuals, we have followed our existing processes and cannot comment further on the rationale for any decisions," Hardy said. John Mountz, the director of Greek Life at ECU, said the individuals' cases and the disciplining of their chapter will be resolved separately. Since their punishment has yet to be established, the students are clear



The ECU Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity's house. GPD investigated the house on April 10, making four arrests.



Grant Swanner to finish the semester. "Both the individuals and the chapter have been sent to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities," Mountz said. "They will follow the same process, but the chapter will also face consequences at the national level."

ECU's Greek Life office has no statistical data on the amount of drug related

problems and whether they are more prevalent than in previous years, according to Mountz. He said this is because ECU Greek Life's main focus is to diminish substance abuse and other illegal activities throughout the year. "We just tend to work with what's going on right now and access whether we need to make any changes," Mountz said. Student Government Association President Jordan Koonts and Vice President Lillie Rhodes declined to comment on the



Jordan Kowalski arrests and the current situation with the students. Phi Kappa Tau is the fourth ECU fraternity to be shut down this year. The ECU Delta Chi Chapter was shut down indefinitely on Jan. 8 by ECU and its national organization for hazing, violating risk management and failing to uphold the values of the fraternity. The ECU Lambda Psi Chapter was also shut down on Jan. 8 for hazing and violating alcohol policies. Sigma Alpha Epsilon was closed on March 2 for policy



Nolan Leonard Nolan Leonard Of the four students, Carter has the closest court date on June 4, according to court records. Swanner, Leonard and Kowalski will all go to court on July 18.

violations following its suspension for policy violations. According to a press release from Greenville Police, the Phi Kappa Tau investigation was the culmination of a three-week long investigation by the Greenville Regional Drug Task Force. GPD's Public Information Officer Kristen Hunter said in an email the investigation was the result of "proactive police work and community tips and involvement." This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

D-360 continued from A1

said these promotional days are limited to D-360, but will be offered all day. Morgan said he expects today will attract the most interest from students because SOUL 101.2 will be in the dining area to play music for attendees. Riggle explained several new dining options will open in the new student center, including an Au Bon Pain, a bakery and café, Raising Cane's Chicken, a "Zaxby's style" dining option and a GrillWorks concept which has yet to be decided.

Riggle also said Panda Express will move from D-360 to the new student center. The summer was the best time to close D-360 because of the limited amount of students on campus, according to Riggle. The regular dining options located in West End and Wright Plaza will still operate, and Riggle said the food trucks will be used to supplement food options for students. Grid Grub and Street Eats are both located on Wright Plaza and the Starbucks truck is located by the Brewster Building. This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

Congrats
The Agency: Lindsay Hutchins, Natalie Ragsdale
The East Carolinian: Jessica Evans, Tyler Gavin, Emily Harvey, Aaron Jackson, Tori Poole, Javeria Salman, Annah Schwartz
Buccaneer: Kevin Devine, Alea Hansinger
WZMB: Ida Misghina, Nick Bequette, Tasia Caldwell, Rahel Haile, Aileen Hnatiuk, Chayton Johnson, Lawrence Kaskon, Michael Taylor, Destiny Teasley
Magazines: Summer Tillman, Victoria Schule, Paris Silver
ECU STUDENT MEDIA

426 E ARLINGTON BLVD B, GREENVILLE, NC 27858 (252)-758-9191
BUFFALO WILD WINGS
WINGS. BEER. SPORTS.
10% with current Pirate Club ID!
5/12/18 - UFC 224 - Nunes vs. Pennington

the BIG VAPE THEORY
E-CIGS, VAPES, E-JUICES AND HARDWARE
VAPE YOUR STRESS AWAY!
CLIMB ABOARD AND CHECK OUT OUR GREAT VAPE SELECTION!
LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED
2800 EAST 10TH STREET (SHOPPING CENTER AT 10TH AND 5TH)
FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!
Authorized retailer for top brands you want: BAD DRIP, CUTTWOOD, SIGELE, PILL, WISMEC, SHIZUN, LOTUS, aspire, kangertech, Vaperz Cloud

OUR VIEW

New events give stronger graduation representation

In a change of events, this year East Carolina University moved its graduation to the evening and will celebrate its graduates with fireworks for the first time in its history. ECU is also sponsoring 'Grad Bash 2k18' on May 3, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Five Points Plaza in Uptown Greenville. At 'Grad Bash 2k18' there will be live music played by Spare Change, food trucks from local businesses as well as beer and wine vendors for those who are 21 and older.

We, the editorial staff of the East Carolinian, believe the school and city of Greenville hosting events for ECU's graduates is a good representation of the school and community, and should be continued for years to come. We also believe these events can potentially sway the decisions of future Pirates, as the families and friends of these graduates see just how involved ECU is with its students.

As students count down their final days as Pirates, they should be given events to honor them for graduating from this institution. Seeing these new activities and possible traditions in the making shows the University is more supportive of its students graduating and moving forward in their lives.

OUR STAFF

Annah Schwartz	Editor-in-Chief
Javeria Salman	Managing Editor
Tyler Gavin	Copy Editor
Andy Li	News Editor
Blessing Aghimien	News Chief
Tori Poole	A&E Editor
Madison Lawson	A&E Chief
Aaron Jackson	Sports Editor
Chase Carroll	Sports Chief
Robbie Milton III	Opinion Editor
Matthew Prenskey	Multimedia Manager
Amanda Shea	Social Media Manager
Thomas Weybrecht	Visual Arts Editor
Danielle Schmid	Visual Arts Chief
Jessica Evans	Design Chief
Dagi Bayunga	Business Manager

Serving ECU since 1925, The East Carolinian is an independent, student-run publication distributed Tuesdays and Thursdays during the academic year and Wednesdays during the summer. The opinions expressed herein are those of the student writers, columnists and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff or administration at East Carolina University or the Student Media Board. Columns and reviews are the opinions of the writers; "Our View" is the opinion of The East Carolinian Board of Opinions.

As a designated public forum for East Carolina University, The East Carolinian welcomes letters to the editor limited to 250 words. Letters may be rejected or edited for libelous content, decency and brevity. All letters must be signed and include a telephone number.

One copy of The East Carolinian is free. Each additional copy is \$1. Unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under North Carolina law. Violators will be prosecuted.

Contact Info

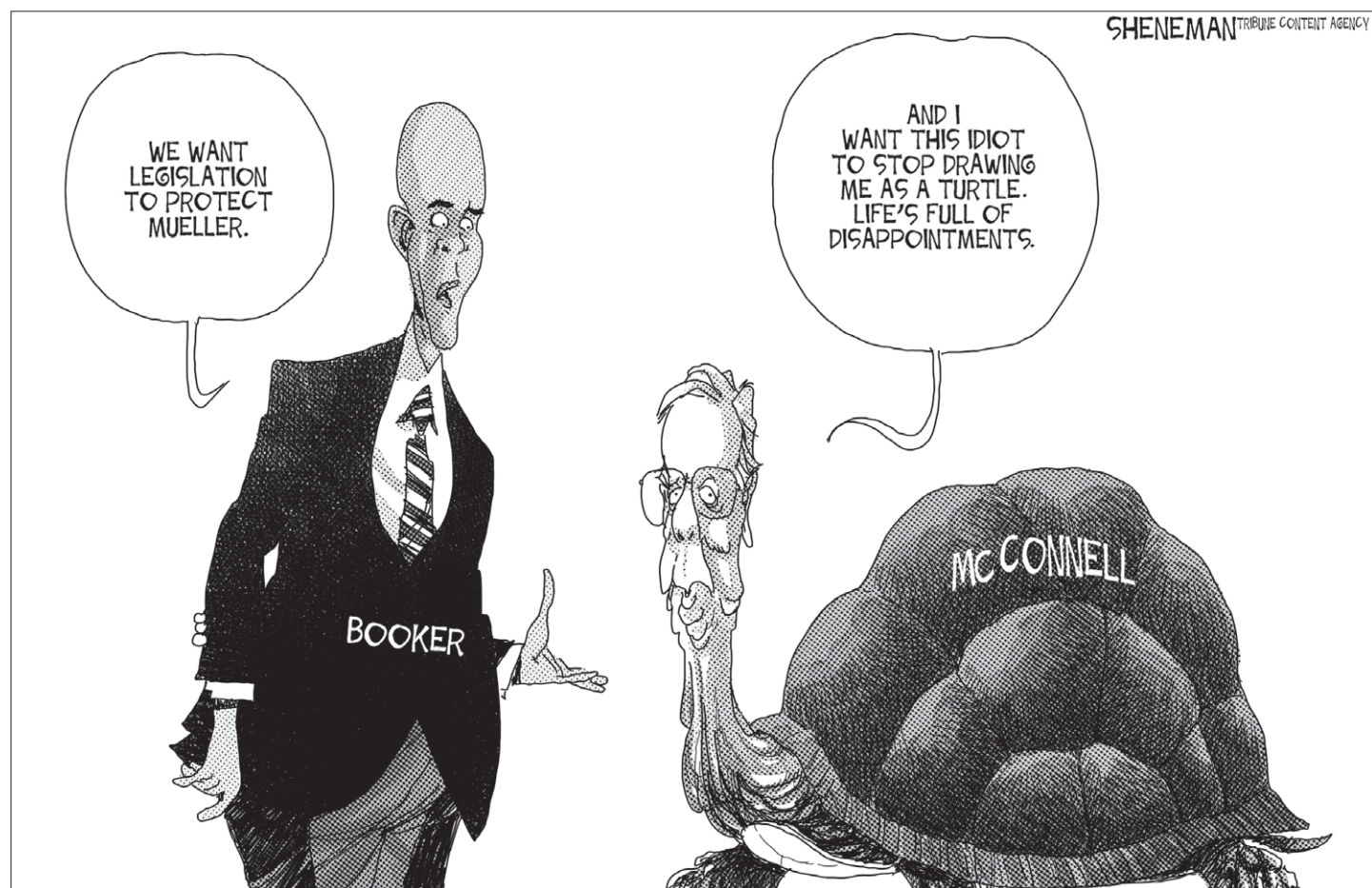
The East Carolinian
Self Help Building,
Greenville, NC, 28889-4353

Email: editor@theeastcarolinian.com

Newsroom: (252) 328-9238

Ads: (252) 328-9245

Fax: (252) 328-9143



>> SENIOR COLUMN

Face obstacles, hardships head on



Annah Schwartz
TEC STAFF

I've written this column over, and over and over in my head — and yet, I still haven't found the perfect way to even begin to put down how I'm feeling right now. Probably because it hasn't really hit me yet.

I'm writing this column before my final production with The East Carolinian has even begun. In a perfect world, I'd be able to write it after production has come to an end as a total reflection, but deadlines wait for no one — that's a hard truth I've come to learn over the last four years. So, I'll be fair, and have this column in to our designers by 5 p.m. on the day of production...and off to the printers no later than midnight so you can read it with your morning coffee, on the bus or in a copy of TEC that you found in Joyner Library.

My story with TEC begins 257 issues ago (if I counted correctly). I'd worked on my high school yearbook as a designer and copy editor, but nothing like a newspaper. I was looking for a job in Greenville, and while I was set up to come to East Carolina University as a journalism student, I couldn't find any openings for a reporter on ECU's job site, but I did see a position for a TEC designer. How hard could it be? I figured I knew enough about design to weasel my way into that job. So, I applied, and absolutely weaseled my way in.

As it turned out, I didn't know the first thing about designing for a newspaper. The first few weeks were stressful...so stressful in fact that I contemplated quitting. But, I had never quit a job before, so I filled out a

“ I've seen chapters of people come and go from this place over the last four years. The beautiful thing about this organization is that its heart still beats just the same. ”

transfer application to Appalachian State University instead. It seemed easier to tell the staff at The East Carolinian I was transferring and wouldn't be back in the spring instead of straight up telling them I quit.

Obviously I'm still here, so something kept me from leaving. I'm forever grateful that Marcos Alices, a member of Student Media's professional staff at the time, took me under his wing and helped me develop confidence in my work. Without that, I'm not quite sure where I would be today.

My new-found confidence brought me to a management position at the paper by my sophomore year. However, as my history would show time and time again, obstacles would give me a run for my money. I remember sitting in the shower crying after our first fall production that year, wondering if I could do it — was it worth it?

Yes, every late, stressful production night was worth it. I spent every ounce of my time here in the greatest love/hate relationship I'll probably ever know.

There are too many people to thank for pushing me along this journey and not letting me fall to self doubt — John Harvey, Cherie Speller, my parents, Javeria Salman. I could go on, but if I draw the list out too long, I know I'll miss key people.

My senior year has brought its own fair share of obstacles, but here I am, staring the end in its eyes. It's just...odd. There's truly no other way to describe it. I'll probably feel it all on May 4, but until then, you'll have to bear with me as I try to write my emotions all down into words.

Maybe I could be a cocky senior and say this place won't be the same without me, but in all honesty, I've seen chapters of people come and go from this place over the last four years. The beautiful thing about this organization is that its heart still beats just the same. Your legacy lives on for awhile, but eventually gets lost in the worn and yellowed pages of TEC's history. And that's OK. My memories of this place will live on in my own mind for as long as I live, and that's all that matters.

I'll leave you with one final nugget of advice, one that has absolutely shaped these last four years, and my future beyond it — don't try to avoid your obstacles and moments of hardship; instead, face them head on. You might just find that you were on the right path all along, you just needed to keep pushing.

Annah Schwartz is a senior majoring in communication. She is the Editor-in-Chief and joined TEC in the fall of 2014. TEC thanks her for her service.

>> SENIOR COLUMN

Fear shouldn't stand in way of passion



Javeria Salman
TEC STAFF

I put off writing this until the last minute because this will most likely be the last piece I get to write as a journalist at The East Carolinian. This marks the end of a very long, but rewarding, chapter of my life.

Unlike most students, my journey to East Carolina University wasn't a normal one. I came to ECU and Greenville after some time off from school, without knowing anyone aside from my sister and was convinced I would hate it here. And I did — for the first week, at least. A week into my first semester at ECU, I was leaving Joyner Library when I happened to see a flyer for tryouts at The East Carolinian. It was the last day for tryouts and all you needed was a blue book and a pencil. I went through a range of emotions standing there, from excitement (I hadn't even known ECU had a paper) to complete nervousness. I had no idea where the building for tryouts was located, had no idea what a "blue book" was and it was in less than two hours. I figured out where to get a blue book, got lost trying to find the Self-Help Building in the rain, finally made it to TEC's office 30 minutes late, took my exam completely unprepared and

somehow actually passed. And instantly found a home at ECU.

It would be difficult to summarize my years at ECU without TEC. My time at ECU goes completely hand-in-hand with my time at TEC. Being a staff member opened my eyes to everything ECU has to offer. It made me love my classes and professors in the School of Communication and it helped me find some of my closest friends.

Working at TEC has pushed me out of my comfort zone countless times, not only as a journalist, but as a person. If there is one thing I've learned while at TEC, it is to not let your fear stand in the way of pursuing something you love. And more importantly, surround yourself with people who won't let you take the easy way out. Since my first semester at TEC, I've been lucky enough to have editors, reporters and mentors who have continuously pushed me to take on stories or beats that I didn't think I was capable of, helping me accomplish goals that were pretty much a dream. For as long as I can remember, I have wanted to be a journalist. My time at TEC (and at SOC) has made realize just how important this job is and just how much I love this insane career.

It hasn't always been easy — being a full-time student and a TEC staff member at the same time can make you a little crazy. There have been many

long production nights, weekends spent working on special projects, countless missed hangouts with very understanding family and friends and maybe a couple missed classes here and there too. But I wouldn't change any of it, for the lessons I've learned here, both good and bad, are the ones that I am going to take with me going forward. TEC, and ECU, have forced me to grow tremendously, not just as a writer, but as a person. I couldn't have asked for a better three-year pit stop. I want to thank my small tribe of friends, family, mentors, professors and advisors who helped shape these years. There's too many people to list out but I'd just like to say a special thank you to a few people whose guidance and support made this year a little easier — my family, Annah Schwartz, Hodan Jama, Cherie Speller, John Harvey and Glenn Hubbard.

These last three years at ECU have been some of my toughest, but these years are also filled with some of the best memories and experiences I've had in my life up to this point. For that, I will always look fondly on my time in this city, and especially in the small office in Uptown Greenville.

Javeria Salman is a senior majoring in communication. She is the managing editor and joined TEC in the fall of 2015. TEC thanks her for her service.

CLASSIFIEDS

RENT ADS:

PIRATEPLACES.COM It's time to pick your perfect home across the street from ECU. We have over 90 of the best and closest houses next to ECU. Go to **PIRATEPLACES.COM** and pick your favorite home that is listed as AVAILABLE!!! The lease for each home MUST start on the date listed in the homes description. We can show and sign a lease now for a lease starting this summer. Last year all of our houses were rented by March find your house now so don't miss out. Go to **PIRATEPLACES.COM** today.

WALK TO CLASS - 1 BLOCK 2 bed/1.5 bath quadplex "buccaneer Village" 507 E. 11th St. save money no ECU parking fees to pay kitchen appliances and dishwasher \$600.00/month Pinnacle Mgmt 561-RENT (7369) PRELEASING NOW for Fall 2018

3 bed 3 bath spacious condo @ 320 Brownlea Dr. PRELEASING NOW for Fall 2018 You choose your rent amount \$800.00/month includes H2O \$1300.00/month gets you W/D, cable, Internet, utilities and H2O on ECU bus route or walk to class, bring your own roommates, we do not match Pinnacle Mgmt 561-RENT (7369)

2 bedroom 2 1/2 bath townhome located in Treetops subdivision on Fire Tower Road. This nice quiet community is convenient to shopping, restaurants, movie theaters, ECU, PCC and the Medical District/School of Medicine. All appliances included along with washer and dryer. The townhome also features ceiling fans in each bedroom and living room, gas log fireplace, spacious privacy fenced patio, designated parking and neutral paint throughout. Both upstairs bedrooms have their own private bath and walk-in closet. Pool access included in rent. Monthly Rent \$850. Call 252-341-0223 or email pnbizzard@gmail.com

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) Today is an 8 -- Put love into your work and health today and tomorrow. Words come easily, with Venus in Gemini this month. A creative project flowers.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is an 8 -- The next two days are reserved for fun. Gather new income this month, with Venus in Gemini. Profit through creative work. Love is your secret ingredient.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 9 -- You're irresistible this month, with Venus in your sign. You're especially lucky with love and money. No need to swagger. Beautify your home through tomorrow.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Peaceful moments soothe your spirit, with Venus in Gemini. Enjoy private indulgences like good books, tea and bubble baths. Write, research and edit.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Get out in public. Social activities benefit your career, with Venus in Gemini. You're especially popular. Smile, and rake in the cash today and tomorrow.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Opportunities to advance your career flower over the next month, with Venus in Gemini. Assume authority. As you gain strength, you also gain options.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- The next month, with Venus in Gemini, is good for traveling. It's easier to venture forth. Begin an educational exploration. Plan and make reservations through tomorrow.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Shared financial growth can blossom this month, with Venus in Gemini. Collaborate for shared benefit. Enjoy time with friends over the next two days.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is an 8 -- A professional assignment or chance has your focus today and tomorrow. Collaboration comes easier, with Venus in Gemini. Partnership flowers. Compromise comes easier.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Venus in Gemini blesses your health, fitness and work with renewed passion, energy and vitality. Include a feminine perspective. Explore and investigate for a few days.

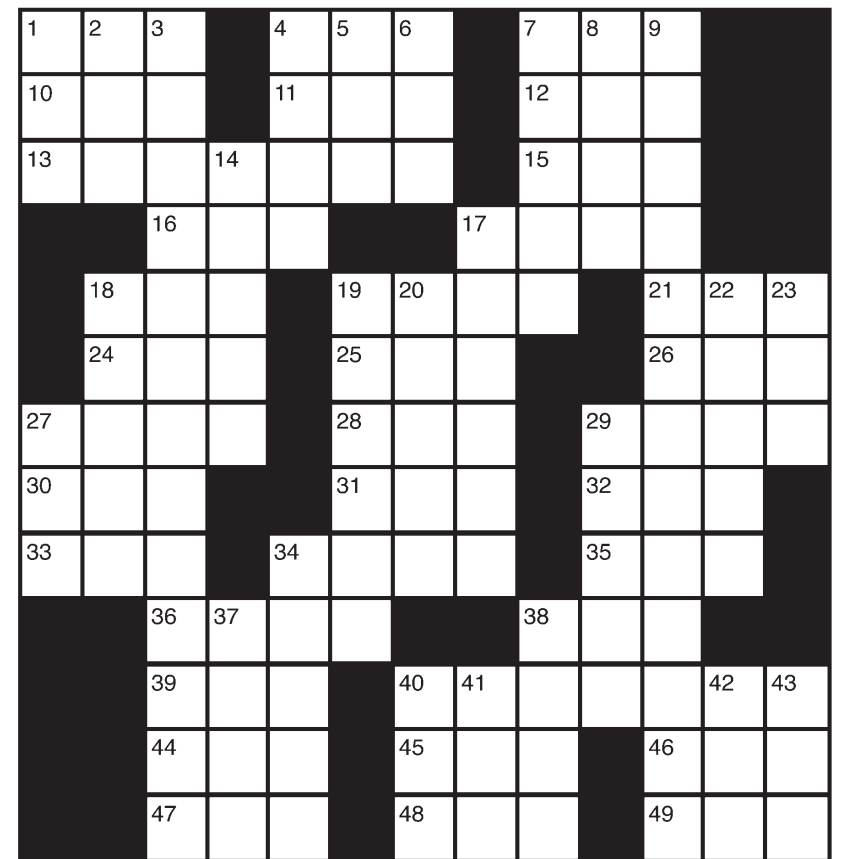
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- You're especially lucky in love and games, with Venus in Gemini. Artistic efforts bloom. Create beauty and harmony. Changes necessitate budget revisions. Collaborate today and tomorrow.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 9 -- You're getting stronger. A personal dream appears available. Go for it! Make your move. Ask for what you want, and get it. Your angels are with you.

CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



ACROSS
 1 "Dateline ____"
 4 "____ Me or the Dog"
 7 Actress Long
 10 "One Day ____ Time"
 11 Word with bran or meal
 12 "The ____ Couple" (1970-75)
 13 Crime drama series
 15 Arthur, for one
 16 Friend of Winnie the Pooh
 17 "Body ____"; '86 Dirk Benedict film
 18 Lead role on "Providence"
 19 Gary of "Midnight Caller" (1988-91)
 21 "The ____"; 1994 Denis Leary film
 24 Number of seasons for "The Honeymooners"
 25 Big heart
 26 Residence, to Eliza Doolittle
 27 Allen and others
 28 Clem Kadiddlehopper's portrayer
 29 "Queen for ____" (1956-64)
 30 Jim Nabors' state of birth: abbr.
 31 Unpleasant spouse
 32 Prefix for angle or pod
 33 Annapolis acad. operator
 34 Seymour or Wyatt
 35 "____ Death"
 36 "____ to the Chief"; 1985 sitcom
 38 Word in the title of Kaley Cuoco's series
 39 Building wing
 40 "____ Rising"; '98 Bruce Willis film
 44 "____ Fly Away" (1991-93)
 45 Most famous 1969 bride
 46 Special-order shoe
 47 Prefix for place or leading
 48 Sullivan and Bradley
 49 Microwave briefly

DOWN
 1 Fabray, to friends
 2 Unit of energy, for short
 3 Actress on "Ghost Whisperer"
 4 514 and 516
 5 Street paver's goo
 6 Wall and Sesame: abbr.
 7 Actor James
 8 "The Big ____ with Donny Deutsch"
 9 Actor on "CSI: Miami"
 14 Indicates beforehand
 17 "____ Hammer!" (1986-88)
 18 Dirties
 19 "____ Knowledge"; 1971 Candace Bergen movie
 20 "____ Ave." (2002-03)
 22 Communications method
 23 Tina ____
 27 Letter from Greece
 29 "The ____"; 2008 John Savage film
 34 Ireland and others
 37 "____ Desire"; 1953 Barbara Stanwyck movie
 38 "The Wayans ____" (1995-99)
 40 One of a funny trio
 41 "The Deep ____"; 2001 Goran Visnjic film
 42 Peggy ____; Aunt Rose's portrayer on "The Waltons"
 43 Slangy reply

Solution from Thursday

M	A	R	K	A	L	S	T	W	O
M	E	L	E	L	E	A	R	A	W
A	M	A	L	L	E	A	R	E	R
D	O	N	A	L	D	C	R	A	G
			Y	E	A		H	U	H
D	A	D	R	I	G	G	M	I	K
I	H	A	D	L	E	I	P	L	A
D	A	T	A	Y	E	A	R	L	Y
			E	V	E	N	E	T	
			E	L	E	V	E	N	T
C	S	I	A	G	E	A	R	O	S
I	A	N	N	O	S	B	E	N	E
D	U	E	S	S	T	S	E	A	S

(c) 2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT



BEST IN SHOW



ONE AND ONLY



BRIAN JUDGE | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

		9		4		8		
			3		8			
1		2				3		9
		2	8			4		6
3								1
8	4				6	7		
2	6				7			5
			6		2			
		3		1		6		

Level:
 1 2
 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Solution from Thursday

7	1	4	3	9	8	6	5	2
6	5	3	4	2	7	8	1	9
8	9	2	1	6	5	3	4	7
5	4	8	7	3	6	9	2	1
2	3	7	9	1	4	5	6	8
9	6	1	8	5	2	4	7	3
4	2	9	5	8	1	7	3	6
1	8	5	6	7	3	2	9	4
3	7	6	2	4	9	1	8	5

© 2017 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All rights reserved.

HELP WANTED



Need or want more experience in sales?

Good news! The Agency wants YOU!

Work with businesses, restaurants, housing, and more all around Greenville!

2.25 GPA or Higher Required

Contact smaa@ecu.edu or call 252.328.9245

for more information or to apply

Located on 305 S. Evans St. on the 2nd floor of the Self-Help Building

Event aims to aid Flint water crisis

Emily Harvey
TEC STAFF

With the water crisis in Flint, Michigan continuing to plague families, DJ B Wavy, local artist Agape. and many more will be at The Way tomorrow, coming together to raise money for the Make it Matter Foundation, which will deliver water bottles for those families in need.

The event will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. at The Way, located at 218 E. 5th St. In addition, the Bellamy, located at 2200 Bellamy



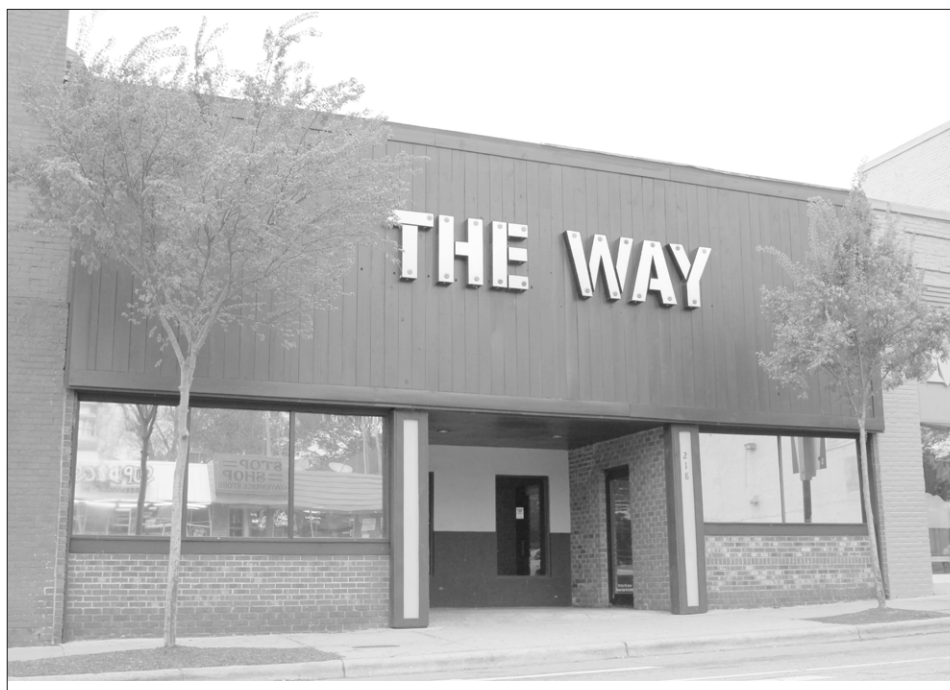
Micah Lockhart

Drive, will host a pool party on May 1 to serve as a drop-off location for individuals who want to bring cases of water, according to East Carolina University alumnus Micah Lockhart, head of promotions at The Way.

Painted water bottles will be sold for \$15 a piece by Agape. and Flint Water Initiative bracelets will be sold for \$3 at The Way event. The presale tickets for the event, which sold out within two days, were released on April 15 priced at \$3 and the rest of the tickets can be bought at the door, priced at \$6 for individuals 21 and up and \$9 for individuals under 21. Every \$3 donation is 40 bottles of water, according to Lockhart.

"My goal is 50,000 bottles, which is going to be about 1,400 cases, a little under, so combined with all the drop offs and the money that we make here, I'm hoping we can purchase enough bottles," Lockhart said. "Agape. will be here, he's painting water bottles. He's a big local artist. I have wrist bands that say 'The Flint Water Initiative,' which is the name of the event, and 'The Make it Matter Foundation,' which is the foundation that I created off of this event."

Lockhart said Tyree Barnes, also known by his artist name Agape., was actually part of the inspiration for the event. Agape. said he went to Flint about eight months ago with one



THOMAS WEYBRECHT | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

The Way is located at 218 E. 5th st. The nightclub will host an event tomorrow to aid Flint, Michigan.

of his friends. While he was there, Lockhart said he posted a Snapchat of some of the water bottles he painted as a metaphor of his journey. That image has stuck in Lockhart's head, adding he called Agape. when he thought of doing the event.

Agape. will bring painted water bottles to the event to sell, with all proceeds going to the Make it Matter Foundation to purchase water bottles for citizens in Flint.

"Basically it's nothing in particular, but it's everything," Agape. said. "Because the bottle is now acting as the canvas, it's about self expression. It's about what do you want to say? What do you want to relay on this particular canvas? Making it as eclectic as possible that everybody can find a home in a water bottle. Someone can take that water bottle and feel personally connected to it."

Agape. said he likes to use a lot of color and create positive messages, incorporating many images from nature, such as flowers and sunsets. He added he uses different designs to

tell stories through the pieces.

The Flint Water Initiative water drive began on April 10 and will run until April 30. Drop-off locations are located at The Bellamy, University Park, University Suites and Paramount 3800. Individuals who are interested in dropping off water at one of the locations may drop them off at the front office or designated area by the property during business hours, according to Lockhart.

"I was at Denny's at 4 a.m. after I got off work, and I was talking to one of my closest friends and she was like, 'What are you passionate about? Why do you wake up?' She's a good friend like that, and I was like 'I don't know,'" Lockhart said. "She said 'name something you care about,' and I said 'Flint.'"

Lockhart said University Suites is donating T-shirts. He wants every T-shirt to have a fact or quote about Flint, adding he doesn't want fluffy facts that read 'one in four people...' He said he wants real facts.

"For example, car dealerships had to stop

washing their cars because the water would peel the paint off of the cars," Lockhart said. "That's how drinkable that is. Every home in Flint is now no longer able to be resold because it's illegal to sell a house with lead contamination. We want to bring light to that because people don't think about it."

Lockhart said the events have been a huge community effort. The owner of The Way, Phil Streigold, is donating the space for the event tomorrow and is also one of the sponsors for the pool party. Lockhart added the entire staff at The Way is working the night for free, including bartenders and the door girl, giving any tips they make to the Make it Matter Foundation. Lockhart said, "No one is making a dollar, it's all about Flint."

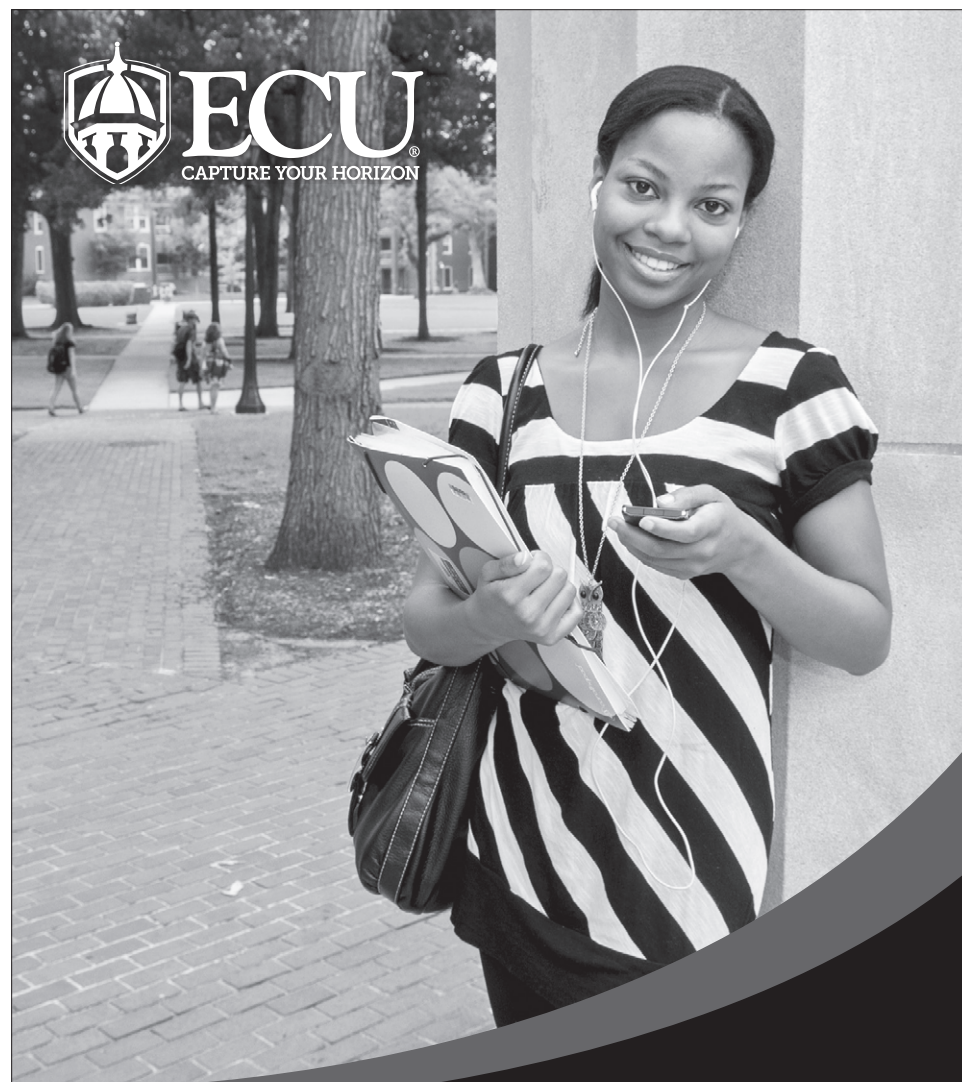
Senior child development major Desirée Brewer, a bartender at The Way, said she has a lot of family from Detroit. She won't be able to work the event at the beginning, but hopes to work the later part, or at least go and promote the event. Brewer added she's been following the water crisis in Flint.

"I was recently reading an article about it, and I think it's corrupt and a terrible thing that's happened. I think it's awesome that Micah is not only organizing to get water bottles and sending money, but he's physically driving all the way from here to Michigan," Brewer said. "I'm trying to convince him to let me go with him."

Lockhart said many individuals donate and never see where it goes. He wants to donate, see it and say he's been able to do something. Lockhart plans to drive the water bottles the 13 hours from Greenville to Flint and drop them off.

"I want to talk to everybody," Lockhart said. "We're going to record the entire thing and I want to bring that back to the people that donated. My goal too, and this is something I've promised every person so I've got to get it done, I'm going to touch every case of water that's donated."

This writer can be contacted at
arts@theeastcarolinian.com.



Think
SUMMER

Summer School '18

Summer classes begin May 14.
See your advisor.

www.ecu.edu/summer

An equal opportunity/affirmative action university, which accommodates the needs of individuals with disabilities. CS 18-2062

>> MEET YOUR BARTENDER



EMILY HARVEY | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Club 519 bartender Brandon Smith shakes a drink. Smith has worked at the downtown bar for six years.

Alumnus talks journey from bouncer to bartender

Emily Harvey
TEC STAFF

Editor's note: This is part five in a five-part Tuesday series titled, "Meet Your Bartenders."

From handling crowds to hand pouring liquor, East Carolina University alumnus Brandon Smith worked his way up at Club 519 from bouncer to bartender to manager.

Located at 519 Cotanche St., 519 is open seven days a week from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. The club opened in 2002 and Smith began working in 2012, though he moved to Greenville in 2009 to attend Pitt Community College and then ECU.

"I've been working downtown for a long time, so watching downtown change, it's happened quite a bit," Smith said. "I've been a manager for a couple years now. I started as basically a bouncer."

Prior to working at 519, Smith worked at Rehab Lounge, which is now The Way, as a security staff member and manager. Though Smith is a manager and says that title keeps him at the club almost every day, he still bartends four or five nights a week. As an exercise physiology graduate from ECU, Smith said he likes bartending because he isn't stationary for too long and the job keeps him moving around.

"You don't really get to do that much bouncer-wise, you have to stay in the same spot," Smith said. "I like moving around.

It's not really that hard, it can just get very intense. It's a long bar. We manage to get as many people as we can. For the most part, I don't do it for the money, I'm just trying to get people drinks as fast as I can."

Lauren Rusak, a senior industrial engineering technology major, said she's been coming to 519 for a few years and frequently comes on Mondays when Smith is bartending.

Rusak said she generally orders a Rolling Rock, or — depending on the night — shots on special, advertised on the chalkboard. She added she has had a good experience with 519 and that's why she continues to come back to the establishment.

"I love that I can be who I am here without having to worry about what I look like, what I'm wearing, what I'm drinking or who I'm with," Rusak said. "I love that this bar is just a laid back bar. It's not a restaurant or anything, it's a bar and that's what I come here for."

Smith described 519 as a "dive bar" and a "cool place to work." He added the club has



Lauren Rusak

Emerge gallery to host senior art show

Trajan Warren
TEC STAFF

As another school year comes to an end, many East Carolina University seniors look toward their futures after graduation. For art majors graduating, their college careers will come to an end with the Senior Show Exhibition.

The exhibition, which is mandatory for senior art majors, opened April 10 and will close on April 27 at Emerge, located at 404 Evans St. Emerge will compile all of the senior works in one public exhibit. Spectators can visit the show from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. to view the personal works of the students featured in the exhibition.

For Alicia Roueche, this exhibition has been a deeply personal experience. Presenting all the pieces she has worked on during her time at ECU was a way for her to stay true to herself as a designer.

"All of my friends and family got to come and it was really neat to see all of the work I've put in over the past three years actually come together," Roueche said. "You don't get a feel of what it all looks like until it's up in the gallery."

After graduation, Roueche said she is planning to become a textile designer and own a clothing company. For Roueche, who is also working on getting a Masters of Business Administration, working in marketing for a textile company would also be a "dream accomplished."

This year's Senior Show Exhibition was

done differently than it has in the past, with students being required to apply for where they would showcase their works. In addition, students were required to submit an art statement along with what pieces they were putting in the show.

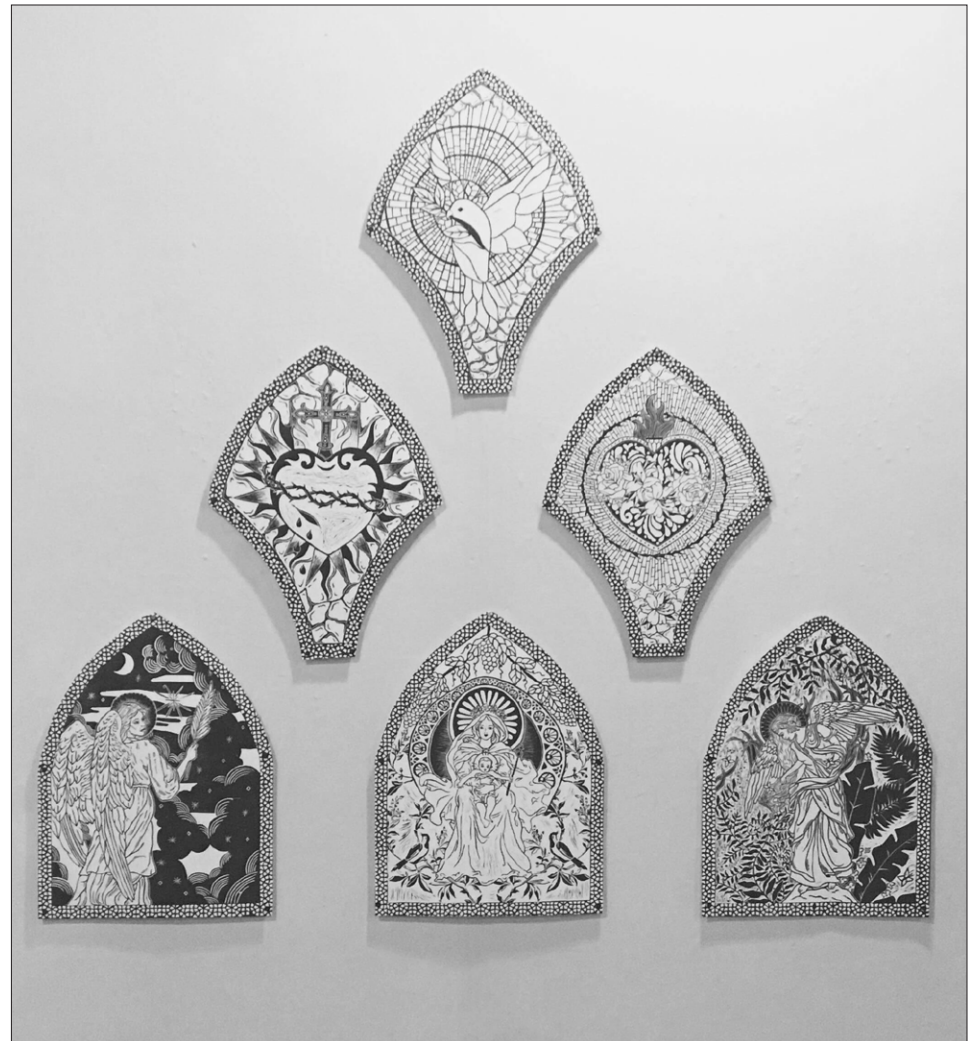
According to fellow senior Michelle O'Brien, who is also featured in the art show, the application was a nice feature because it simulates the process artists must go through when they want to start exhibits on their own. O'Brien, who plans to open her own printshop and teach basic printmaking, said she took this exhibition as an opportunity to gain valuable experience for her future career.

"This is the closing of my education and I have learned how to properly install and disseminate a show. I've learned what to do and what not to do," O'Brien said. "It's prepared me if I want to do an exhibit in the future."

As this marks the artists' final exhibit at ECU, it has made the Senior Show sentimental for several. Students have said the Senior Show Exhibition not only signifies an end, but a beginning into their professional lives.

"This exhibit has helped me to realize a lot of things for myself," O'Brien said. "The fact that it's my Senior Show and that I've been at ECU for an extra year, closing everything off has made me realized that I have to go into reality."

This writer can be contacted at
arts@theeastcarolinian.com.



CONTRIBUTED BY MICHELLE O'BRIEN

Michelle O'Brien designed these pieces with stained glass windows from churches as inspiration.

BARTENDER

continued from A5

many regulars who come in often.

Even when Smith is not working, he said he will still hang out at 519, adding the staff calls it "home base" because it's basically their home away from home.

Standing at the entrance of 519, bouncer Kyle Adams said he's worked at the club for almost a year and a half, but came to hang out and drink for about two and a half years before that. Adams echoed Smith when talking about hanging out at 519 even when not on the clock.

"It's very laid back. Come to work, just

hang out, days off, come here and drink with the fellows, that's it," Adams said. "Everyone here is super nice. Customers are generally good depending on the crowd and the night, but other than that they're generally laid back, no problems."



Brandon Smith

According to Adams, the staff has a group chat, hangs out outside of work and goes out to lunch a lot. He added Smith is a good boss.

"We've worked with each other for so long, we've developed a chemistry," Smith said.

"For the most part we've all been here for awhile. We all know the ropes. There's always ups and downs, but, for the most part, we're a pretty solid group."

When customers need drink recommendations, Smith will typically mix vodka, cranberry and pineapple, but said the popular staple drinks lately have been tequila pineapples and whiskey sours.

The fall semester is normally busier for all of downtown, according to Smith. He said the football team brings in a lot of individuals and those are definitely busier nights, adding the busiest night at 519 was when NC State played ECU in football. For the most part, football games, graduation and other big events add to the downtown

crowd, Smith said.

With writing on the back wall of 519 stretching almost to the top, Smith said this might be the longest the staff has gone without having to paint over it, as they painted about a year and a half ago. He said customers have gotten creative and there's "some pretty crazy stuff up there."

"It's a job but it's so much more," Smith said. "There's a reason why they call Greenville 'Never-Never Land,' because you never have to grow up. You can always come back here and be a kid."

This writer can be contacted at
arts@theeastcarolinian.com.

BUYBACK
is
MONEY

Sell back textbooks for your chance to win a money pool float

U.B.E.
PirateWear.com

WHERE FRESH & FAST MEET®

JIMMY JOHN'S
Since 1983
GOURMET SANDWICHES

WE DELIVER!

VISIT JIMMYJOHNS.COM TO FIND A LOCATION NEAR YOU

Tennis teams lose AAC games

Austin Walker
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University tennis teams ended their seasons last week at the American Athletic Conference Championships in Dallas, Texas. Both teams were beaten by Tulane University, as the women fell in the first round of the tournament, and the men were beaten in the semifinal after a stellar season.

The seventh seeded Pirate men started the tournament strong, defeating the 10-seed University of Connecticut 4-0 in their first match on April 19. The Pirates took the doubles point, and stayed hot in the singles matches, as senior Freddie McGeehan (6-4,6-1), junior Vlad Anghel (6-0,6-3) and freshman Wisse Jonker (6-2,6-0) all won their singles matches for the Pirates. With the win, Jonker improved to 18-2 on the season in singles matches.

The Pirate men's run in the tournament was ended on April 20 as the team lost in the semifinals to the two seed Tulane, 4-1. The Pirates lost the doubles point and failed to get going in the singles matches, as senior Kasey Countee (6-4,6-2) won the sole match for the team. Despite the loss, head coach Shawn Heinchon was proud of his team.

"The guys played great. They've been starving for an opportunity like that against a top-25 team," Heinchon said, "They played awesome. They were extremely aggressive and full of passion, but Tulane just played a little better than us."

Despite the finish, ECU tennis had a record-setting year. The men's team finished with a program-record 22 wins, a six-game improvement from last season, and three games better than the best previous season under head coach Shawn Heinchon.

"It's hard to take in the season this close to it," Heinchon said, "We had a great season, so we do need to take the time to appreciate it, but it's also so important that we continue to improve, that a priority that overrides everything else."

The eighth seeded women were defeated on April 17 in a close 4-3 loss to the ninth seeded Green Wave. The team opened strong, winning the doubles point, yet lost the match by dropping four of the six singles matches. Junior Celia Ruiz (6-4,6-

2) and sophomore Lisa Hofbauer (6-3,6-3) both won their singles matches for ECU in straight sets. Ruiz ended the season with eight straight solo match victories. Despite being upset, head coach Tom Morris was proud of his team's effort.



Celia Ruiz

"Overall, I was proud of the way the team fought in the match," Morris said. "We were out of it early, but we came back and gave ourselves a chance to win in a really tight match."

The women's team didn't set any records, but had an impressive season, finishing 17-9, a five-game improvement from last season. The team also finished with an undefeated record at home (7-0) for the first time in program history according to ecupirates.com record books.

"I'm proud of the teams this year. We had maybe our best year ever," Morris said. "If you look at our national ranking and the schedule we had, I feel like we responded well to the adversity and I'm really proud of the play and hard work of this team."

Looking ahead, the ECU men and women both have solid players returning to the roster. The men have a promising pair of underclassmen in Renones and Jonker, who combined for a 17-2 record in doubles play this season. Jonker also recorded an impressive 18-2 record in his singles matches. The women will return No. 72 nationally ranked Ruiz who enters her senior year. Coach Morris thinks his team is poised for more success next season after a good spring.

"We've got a couple of really good recruits coming in, and I really think we have a chance to be even stronger next year, and I'm really looking forward to it," Morris said.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.



CONTRIBUTED BY POL SOLANELLAS

Former ECU track and field distance runner Pol Solanellas (center) heals in the hospital as he is surrounded by friends and former teammates.

Solanellas progresses

Daniel Roberts
TEC STAFF

After spending weeks in the hospital due to a horrific accident, former East Carolina University track and field distance runner Pol Solanellas is now back in Viladecavalls, Spain, healing from his injuries while healing. Solanellas was in an accident on Feb. 12, when he was hit by a car in the evening. The accident left him in the hospital for five weeks from what Solanellas described as a "traumatic brain injury" in a Facebook post. But Solanellas is looking to come back to ECU get his doctorate in business management.

During his time at ECU, Solanellas was named to the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-District 3 Team after his senior year, as well as ECU's Most Outstanding Male Scholar-Athlete for the 2016-17 year.

ECU business professor Amy McMillan has talked with Solanellas everyday, checking in to see how his recovery is coming along, and said he has continued to have a positive attitude despite what he has dealt with since the accident.

"Pol has had such a positive attitude in all of this," McMillan said. "He was like, 'OK this has happened and it's OK, I just have to focus on getting better.' The people that wanted to help him speaks to who Pol is as a person. His recovery speaks to his perseverance, his dedication, his drive and it speaks to the

support his family has given in all this."

McMillan and Senior Associate Athletics Director Mike Hanley started a GoFundMe page to help cover Solanellas' expenses, as well as help him get back to his home country of Spain.



Pol Solanellas

The goal of the project was to raise \$15,000, and that goal was surpassed on April 1, to help Solanellas and his mom get back to Spain while covering some of his medical expenses as well. In fact, the project raised around \$15,500 to help Solanellas and his family. The GoFundMe page states that any money raised over the amount needed for Solanellas' medical expenses will be donated to a charity of his choosing, per NCAA rules.

Solanellas had people stay by his side during his stay at the hospital. McMillan and Hanley stayed with him, as well as two close friends and teammates junior Stefano Migliorati and sophomore Nuria Tillo-Prats. He had visitors and support from many people, including ECU Chancellor Cecil Staton, who visited toward the end of Solanellas' stay in the hospital.

"After spending three weeks at the hospital, and three weeks more doing rehabilitation, I was overwhelmed by the

reaction that the accident triggered on my friends, faculty and fellow students," Solanellas said. "One does not know how many people he or she has reached until he or she goes through something like this. In my case, it gave me the strength to face rehabilitation with a positive attitude to fully recover as quickly as possible."

The impact Solanellas felt from the love and support of the ECU community touched not only him, but also McMillan and Hanley who wanted to come together for the runner.

Solanellas returned to Spain on March 21 and is currently doing his rehab at the Institut Guttmann in Barcelona. Solanellas said he is progressing favorably according to his doctors who are helping him get back to 100 percent.

"We are super glad to see Pol recover as fast as he has done so far," Stefano said. "It was a big scare in the beginning. The fact that a lot of people supported the project was real nice. People loved Pol, and Pol loved people because the love you give, the love you receive, was how it worked."



Stefano Migliorati

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

>> BASEBALL

ECU completes sweep of Memphis

Robert Romero
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's baseball team recorded its first American Athletic Conference weekend series sweep against the University of Memphis, helping it earn the No. 7 spot in this week's Baseball America rankings.

ECU holds a 30-9, 8-4 AAC record compared to Memphis' 13-28, 1-11 AAC record, showing the Pirates have been more dominant this season. Though the Pirates secured the series victory with a sweep, ECU did not take Memphis for granted, competing in a double-header on Saturday and winning the final two games of the series, both times 4-2.

The Pirates jumped out to an early 4-0 lead after three innings in game two of their double-header on Saturday, the final game of the series. However, the offense had its struggles when Tigers' left handed pitcher Hunter Smith came in for relief to help Memphis cut the lead in half. The Pirates didn't put up another run for the rest of the game, but the ECU pitchers picked up the slack and held off the scrappy Tigers when they threatened in the ninth inning, holding on for the 4-2 win.

"We put up four runs early and then they brought in their best reliever and we couldn't scratch any runs across, but all our pitchers in game two (Tyler Smith, Gavin Williams, Jake Agnos and Zach Barnes) were all really good out on the mound today," head coach Cliff Godwin said.

Hard fought, close wins were the general theme for the Pirates in this series. They faced a two-run deficit in game one before coming back with a four-run fifth inning to come away with another 4-2 win. The story line of this game however was sophomore right hander Trey Benter getting pulled in favor of freshman left hander Alec Burleson for the starting nod, who went 4.1 innings, allowing just two runs on five hits with four strikeouts.



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

Sophomore left-handed pitcher Jake Agnos pitches in a game for East Carolina University.

According to Godwin, the Pirates had their struggles scoring runs against the Tigers' bullpen, particularly in game one Friday night. But the solid performances from the defense and pitching staff picked up the slack, which was enough to leave Memphis with the series sweep.

"I just thought we were OK offensively with a lot of soft contact and don't know if we were as focused as we needed to be, but we did enough to win," Godwin said. "Anytime you go on the road and get a series win is awesome, and obviously sweeping a series on the road is very hard to do."

ECU is 4-0 so far on this five-game road trip, setting the tables for what might be the biggest matchup of the season in its road trip finale against No. 2 North Carolina State University, who sits at 31-8 and 15-6 in the Atlantic Coast Conference, one of the nation's premier conferences.

Both teams have dominated in-state matchups this season, with ECU going 13-1 against North Carolina squads and NCSU going 10-1, with its first loss coming on Sunday

in a series win at Duke University. NC State is also the final ranked team in North Carolina ECU has yet to defeat.

Sophomore left-handed pitcher Jake Agnos is scheduled to make another week day start after pitching two innings out of the bullpen this weekend. However, with Benton failing to make his regular start, it's possible the former Friday-night starter may be available out of the bullpen in some capacity.

Agnos has thrived in his weekday starting role, most recently in last week's road win against the Blue Devils, but tonight will arguably be his toughest task of the season, going up against one of the top offenses in the country. NCSU ranks 14th in batting average (.304) and fifth in the nation in home runs (56). To get an idea how deep their lineup is, the Wolfpack are just one player shy of having a full lineup of batters hitting over .300 for the season.

Tonight's marquee matchup will air at 6 on WatchESPN and the ESPN app.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

>> SOFTBALL

ECU softball takes down USF

Samantha Walsh
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University softball team upset the No. 1 team in the American Athletic Conference, taking home an AAC series victory over the University of South Florida with a walk-off win.

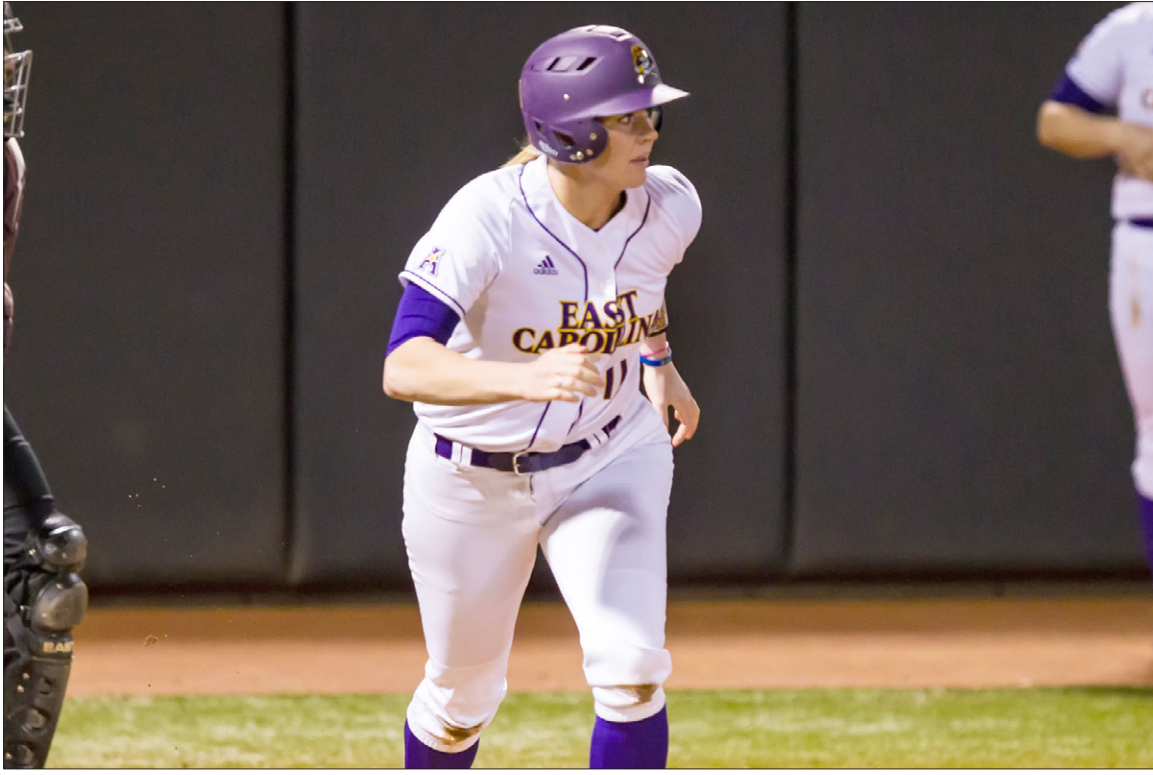
USF (32-18, 10-5 AAC) scored its only two runs of the game in the fourth inning and the Pirates followed with two runs of their own in the fifth inning. The Pirates (21-26, 7-8 AAC) sealed the win in the seventh inning with one additional run, coming out victorious with a walk-off 3-2 win. The Pirates have won six of their past seven games.



Courtney Oliver

“The plan is to win every game,” head coach Courtney Oliver said. “USF is a really good team. They can pitch it and they can swing it a bit.”

Freshman infielder Ashleigh Inae went 2-for-3 on the day, including a two-run homer to tie the game. ECU capitalized on four USF errors with great base running to make every error count. The Pirates propelled themselves through solid pitching



Senior infielder Meredith Burroughs runs the bases after making contact with a pitch in a game for the Pirates.

and only allowed one walk to slip away, with two strikeouts all game. The teams combined to go 2-for-4 with a runner on third and less than two outs.

On Saturday at the Strikeout Cancer game, ECU scored all three of its runs in the third inning and USF scored its two in the fourth. Freshman pitcher Erin Poepping pitched the entire game

to earn her 10th win in the circle as ECU squeaked out a 3-2 win. Poepping closed out the game with three strikeouts, no walks and propelled ECU to a victory. In game two, senior infielder Meredith Burroughs and Inae took control at bat and scored two of their three runs. Sophomore redshirt Tate McClellan brought in Burroughs and Inae in her

three times at bat. All three players recorded three hits and have been consistent up at bat throughout the entire season

“They fought back. They didn’t cave in,” Oliver said. “If it weren’t for Inae and Burroughs hitting the ball hard, because there were two back to back errors, they hit the ball square on the knob and they were the reason why Tate was able

to score those runs.” The first game of the series on Friday was the Pirates only loss on the weekend, falling 7-3. USF started the scoring with one run in each the fourth and fifth inning. The Pirates took the lead after posting three runs throughout the fifth and six innings, but fell apart in the final inning and surrendered five runs on just four hits to USF in the top of the seventh.

Burroughs was a top performer for ECU this game as she went 1-for-3 at bat and recorded her 29th home run as a Pirate. Six batters were walked by ECU and was the Bulls eighth straight win over the Pirates until the second and third games of the weekend.



Meredith Burroughs

ECU matched its most league victories in a single season since winning seven in 2015, its first year in the AAC. The Pirates will continue their season with an in-state rivalry game tomorrow against North Carolina State University (22-25, 5-15 ACC).

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

NCSU continued from A1

17-game hitting streak, and maintain his .400 batting average at the top of the lineup, which leads all AAC players. Junior outfielder Dwanya Williams-Sutton will also enter the week after being named to the AAC’s honor roll team of the week after posting a .562 batting average with nine hits and three runs

scored last week.

ECU softball (21-26, 7-8 AAC) takes on NCSU softball (22-25, 5-15 ACC) as both teams have struggled this season. NCSU is currently on a five game losing streak entering the game while ECU softball has won six out of its last seven conference games. NCSU has been outscored 27-5 in its last five games while ECU has outscored opponents 22-18 in its last five AAC games.

ECU has won two-straight AAC series by sweeping the University of Connecticut then taking two out of three games against first place University of South Florida last weekend. ECU now sits tied for sixth with the University of Tulsa in the AAC standings. ECU looks to continue the hot play of two freshman, pitcher Erin Poepping and infielder Ashleigh Inae. Poepping has pitched 12 innings in the last week, earning

a 2-1 record with a 1.75 ERA. Inae hit .417 last week with two RBI, a home run, three runs scored and no errors from the field at shortstop.

The baseball team’s midweek clash against the No. 2 Wolfpack will be shown on the WatchESPN and the ESPN app with the first pitch scheduled for tonight at 6.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.



Congratulations Graduates!

ECU.EDU/SIL

